

Official Notice of Election for Military and Overseas Voters

County of Beaver

2019 Municipal Election – November 5, 2019

This is an official notice of an election to be conducted on November 5, 2019 in Beaver County. You may register to vote and request an official absentee ballot by using the Federal Postcard Application (FPCA), available at www.votespa.com or www.fvap.gov. You may apply for an absentee ballot by submitting your FPCA by fax to 724.728.9318, or by email to dmandity@beavercountypa.gov.

You may request an absentee ballot from this office at any time prior to a primary or election. However, if time does not permit you to receive and return an official absentee ballot, you are also entitled to vote using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB). Military electors may also use the FWAB to register to vote and vote simultaneously.

You may use the FWAB to vote for all state and local offices, and ballot initiatives.

To vote, refer to page 3 of the FWAB.

To vote for state and local offices or for ballot initiatives, write the names of candidates or ballot initiatives in the Addendum section of the FWAB. Under the **Office/Ballot Initiative** heading, enter the office the candidate is running for or the title of the Ballot Initiative (referendum). Under the **Candidate Name, Party Affiliation or Initiative Vote** heading, list the name of the candidate you wish to vote for, or if you are voting on a Referendum question or Judicial Retention question write “yes” or “no.”

***LIST OF ALL OFFICES TO APPEAR ON THE NOVEMBER 5, 2019
MUNICIPAL ELECTION BALLOT MAY BE FOUND ON THE BUREAU OF
ELECTIONS WEB PAGE UNDER THE LINK – [OFFICES ON BALLOT](#)**

***LIST OF ALL CANDIDATES THAT WILL APPEAR ON THE NOVEMBER 5,
2019 MUNICIPAL ELECTION BALLOT MAY BE FOUND ON THE BUREAU
OF ELECTIONS WEB PAGE UNDER THE LINK – [CANDIDATES ON BALLOT](#)**

<http://www.beavercountypa.gov/Depts/Elections/Pages/default.aspx>

The following Proposed Constitutional Amendment will appear on the November 5, 2019 ballot:

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

CRIME VICTIM RIGHTS

Ballot Question

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to grant certain rights to crime victims, including to be treated with fairness, respect and dignity; considering their safety in bail proceedings; timely notice and opportunity to take part in public proceedings; reasonable protection from the accused; right to refuse discovery requests made by the accused; restitution and return of property; proceedings free from delay; and to be informed of these rights, so they can enforce them?

Plain English Statement of the Office of Attorney General

The proposed amendment, if approved by the electorate, will add a new section to Article I of the Pennsylvania Constitution. That amendment will provide victims of crimes with certain, new constitutional rights that must be protected in the same way as the rights afforded to individuals accused of committing a crime.

The proposed amendment defines “victim” as both a person against whom the criminal act was committed and any person who was directly harmed by it. The accused or any person a court decides is not acting in the best interest of a victim cannot be a victim.

Generally, the proposed amendment would grant victims the constitutional right to receive notice and be present and speak at public proceedings involving the alleged criminal conduct. It would also grant victims the constitutional right to receive notice of any escape or release of the accused and the right to have their safety and the safety of their family considered in setting the amount of bail and other release conditions. It would also create several other new constitutional rights, such as the right to timely restitution and return of property, the right to refuse to answer questions asked by the accused, and the right to speak with a government attorney.

Specifically, the proposed amendment would establish the following new rights for victims:

-
- *To be treated with fairness and respect for the victim’s safety, dignity and privacy*
 - *To have the safety of the victim and the victim’s family considered in fixing the amount of bail and release conditions for the accused*
 - *To reasonable and timely notice of and to be present at all public proceedings involving the criminal or delinquent conduct*
 - *To be notified of any pretrial disposition of the case*
 - *With the exception of grand jury proceedings, to be heard in any proceeding where a right of the victim is implicated, including, but not limited to, release, plea, sentencing, disposition, parole and pardon*

- *To be notified of all parole procedures, to participate in the parole process, to provide information to be considered before the parole of the offender, and to be notified of the parole of the offender*
 - *To reasonable protection from the accused or any person acting on behalf of the accused*
 - *To reasonable notice of any release or escape of the accused*
 - *To refuse an interview, deposition or other discovery request made by the accused or any person acting on behalf of the accused*
 - *Full and timely restitution from the person or entity convicted for the unlawful conduct*
 - *Full and timely restitution as determined by the court in a juvenile delinquency proceeding*
 - *To the prompt return of property when no longer needed as evidence*
 - *To proceedings free from unreasonable delay and a prompt and final conclusion of the case and any related postconviction proceedings*
 - *To confer with the attorney for the government*
 - *To be informed of all rights enumerated in this section*
-

The proposed amendment would allow a victim or prosecutor to ask a court to enforce these constitutional rights but would not allow a victim to become a legal party to the criminal proceeding or sue the Commonwealth or any political subdivision, such as a county or municipality, for monetary damages.

Once added to the Pennsylvania Constitution, these specific rights of victims cannot be eliminated, except by a judicial decision finding all or part of the amendment unconstitutional or the approval of a subsequent constitutional amendment. If approved, the General Assembly may pass a law to implement these new, constitutional rights, but it may not pass a law eliminating them. If approved, State and local governments will need to create new procedures to ensure that victims receive the rights provided for by the amendment

SAMPLE FWAB

Official Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot

Vote by writing the name and/or party affiliation of the candidate for whom you wish to vote. Some States allow the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to be used by military and overseas voters in elections other than general elections or for offices other than Federal offices. Consult the Voting Assistance Guide to determine your State's policy.

President/Vice President: _____

U.S. Senator*: _____

U.S. Representative/Delegate**/Resident Commissioner**:

* Legal residents of the District of Columbia may vote only for President/Vice President and Delegate.

**** Legal residents of American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands may vote only for Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress.**

Addendum

If you are eligible to use this ballot to vote for offices other than those listed above or for ballot initiatives, please indicate in the spaces provided below, the office for which you wish to vote (for example: Governor, Attorney General, Mayor, State Senator, etc.). You may also indicate the ballot initiative and your vote for the initiative.

Office / Ballot Initiative

**Candidate Name, Party Affiliation,
or Initiative Vote**

[illegible][illegible]

Vote for
candidates
for state
and local
offices in
this section

Enter the office the candidate is running for here

Enter the
name of
the
candidate
you wish
to vote for
here